

REMARKS

This paper is presented in response to the Office Action. Claims 15-36 are canceled, claim 1 is amended, and new claims 37 and 38 are added. Claims 1-14, 37 and 38 are now pending in view of the aforementioned cancellations and new claims.

I. General Considerations

Applicants note that the remarks and amendments presented herein have been made merely to clarify the claimed embodiments from elements purported by the Examiner to be taught by the cited references. Such remarks, or a lack of remarks, and amendments are not intended to constitute, and should not be construed as, an acquiescence, on the part of the Applicants: as to the purported teachings or prior art status of the cited references; as to the characterization of the cited references advanced by the Examiner; or as to any other assertions, allegations or characterizations made by the Examiner at any time in this case. Applicants reserve the right to challenge the purported teaching and prior art status of the cited references at any appropriate time.

In addition, the remarks herein do not constitute, nor are they intended to be, an exhaustive enumeration of the distinctions between any cited references and the claimed invention. Rather, the distinctions identified and discussed herein are presented solely by way of example. Consistent with the foregoing, the discussion herein is not intended, and should not be construed, to prejudice or foreclose contemporaneous or future consideration, by the Applicants, of additional or alternative distinctions between the claims of the present application and the references cited by the Examiner, and/or the merits of additional or alternative arguments.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicants respectfully note that a claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Further, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Finally, the elements must be arranged as required by the claim. *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* ("MPEP") § 2131.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,086,412 to Watt et al. ("*Watt*"). Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's

indication that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Notwithstanding the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 6, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-5 and 7-14 in light of the following remarks.

Claim 1, as amended, recites, among other things: "...an arm connected to the base, the arm comprising: a flexible circuit having a data input and a data output; and cable connectors connected to a distal end of the flexible circuit and configured to physically and electrically interface with respective cables..." Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in paragraphs [038] and [044] and in Figures 4A-4C of the application. In contrast, the Examiner has not established that *Watt* teaches or suggests the aforementioned limitation in combination with the other limitations of claim 1. Applicants thus respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 1, and corresponding dependent claims 2-5 and 7-14, should be withdrawn.

III. New Claims 39-45

Applicants note new claims 37 and 38 have been added herein. Support for new claim 37 can be found at least in paragraphs [043]-[045] and in Figure 4C. Support for new claim 38 can be found at least in paragraphs [044], [047], and [052], and in Figure 4C. Because each of these claims depends from claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims is allowable at least because claim 1 is allowable, as discussed in Section II above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the claims 1-14, 37 and 38 now pending in this application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections is requested and allowance of those claims is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 28th day of June 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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